THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI MAKHAN LAL FOTEDAR): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Certain special steel used in automobile industry has since been developed indigenously in the public sector and the Steel Plants are in the process of augmenting its production.

Demands for modifications in Bachawat Wage Board Award

523. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA:
SHRI CHATURNAN MISHRA:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Co-ordination Committee of newspaper and News Agency Employees organisation has submitted a memorandum to the P. M. demanding minor modifications in the Bachawat Wage Board Award and its early gazette notification for implementation ; and

(b) if so, the details and action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI RADHAKRISHAN MALAVIYA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The employees organisations are demanding revisions in the pay scales, H. R. A., C. C. A. and regrouping of certain categories of employees. The report of the Wage Board is under consideration.

Arrest of jute mill magnates in West Bengal

524. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Commissioner of Provident Funds has recently ordered arrest of same jute mill magnates in West Bengal who have not been depositing the workers contribution to PF after deduction from them;

(b) if so, the details of the persons arrested/prosecuted and the defalcated amount to be recovered, and

(c) what are the total outstanding dues on account of Provident Fund and ESI of Jute Mills as on 30th June 1989?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENDARY AFFAIRS (SHRI RADHAKRISHAN MALAVIYA): (a) and (b) On the basis of complaints filed by the provident fund authorities, the police is reported to have arrested three Directors of M/s Kanikinarrah Jute Mills, one Director of M/s North Brook Jute Co. Ltd. and the Chairman of M/s Baranagore Jute Factory on the 24th June, 1989 and on production before the Sub-Divisional Judicial Magistrate, bail was granted to four of the accused, while the Director of M/s North Brook Co. Ltd. was remanded to judicial custody upto 8-7-89. These three mills together are reported to be in arrears of about rupees one crore as on 31-3-89.

(c) According to available information, the following amount was in arrears from the jute mills as on 31-3-1989:—

(Rupees in crores)

(i) Provident fund dues .	86.96
(ii) ESI dues . . .	20.47